

REMARKS

This case has been carefully reviewed and analyzed in view of the Official Action dated 10 January 2005. Responsive to the rejections made in the Official Action, Claim 1 has been amended to clarify the combination of elements that form the invention of the subject Patent Application. Additionally, Claims 2, 4, 5, 10, 11 and 12 have been amended to clarify the language thereof. Further, Claims 8 – 9 and 13 – 21 have been cancelled by this Amendment.

In the Official Action, the Examiner objected to the Specification due to an informality therein. Accordingly, the Specification has been amended to correct the informality kindly noted by the Examiner.

In the Official Action, the Examiner rejected Claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph because there was insufficient antecedent basis for the term “said first layer”.

Claim 1 has been amended to correct the language thereof and provide proper antecedent basis for all of the limitations therein.

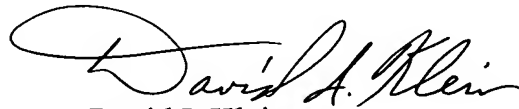
In the Official Action, the Examiner rejected Claims 1, 3, 4 and 5 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e), as being anticipated by Ghosh, U.S. Patent Application Publication 2004/0201027. The Examiner rejected Claims 2, 5, 6 and 7 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), as being unpatentable over Ghosh in view of Kobayashi, U.S. Patent Application Publication 2002/0068191. However, the Examiner kindly indicated that Claims 9 – 12 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form

including all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the subject matter of Claim 9 therein. Thus, Claim 9 has been effectively rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of the base claim, Claim 1, and any intervening claims, which there were none. While it is believed that all of the claims dependent upon amended Claim 1 have further patentably distinct limitations, these claims are at least patentably distinct for the same reasons as Claim 1.

It is now believed that the subject Patent Application has been placed in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,
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